

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1889.

It is ten times a thrice told tale, but it would seem to be necessary to state once again our position in the community. The Citizen is conducted with the intent to serve the best interests of Bloomfield and the Bloomfielders. It is considered that their interest are best served by taking definite and decided position, relative to the issues which are ever arising and dividing opinion. But in order that the paper may faithfully represent all classes of citizens and all shades of opinion, our columns are ever freely offered to all whom the spirit of public or private interest moves to write.

While we steadfastly maintain sound Republican doctrine in our editorial page, we have often published the rankest political heresies, as contributions from our Democratic friends. We extend a welcome to Democrats, Prohibitionists, Green-backers, Mugwumps, Stalwarts, Half-breeds, Regulars, Independents, Machinists, Kickers, Cranks, and Bolters, to Presbyterians, new, old, and blue-nosed, Catholics, Methodists, Baptists, Episcopalians, Fanatics, Heretics, and Unbelievers, to Americans, Europeans, Egyptians, Chinese and Hottentots; men, women, children and duodes; rich, poor and well-to-do; had-cargos, students, business men and mechanics; and if there be any other order or condition of mankind not hereinbefore particularly set forth, its members and representatives are now hereby invited to come forward and contribute wisdom for these columns.

We naturally impose a few very reasonable conditions. Our guests are always expected to send their names with their esteemed contributions. They know us and frequently visit us with their most acrid criticism, then why should they wish to conceal their identity from us, who always treat them most kindly and confidentially?

We also quietly but firmly insist that they shall not wantonly dismember each other, or in bearish sport hug the life out of some quiet citizen who is enjoying the fun. For the players themselves we are not over careful, they know the game and must take the consequences if the play is fair. The Citizen is however never knowingly allowed to be used as an instrument of private spite or unfair play. That we may sometimes play cat to someone's monkey is doubtless true, but we try to make it very uncomfortable for the monkey afterwards when we find it out.

In a word there nothing libelous, scurrilous or profane, nor anything calculated to disturb the peace of mind of any person, without excuse, shall find admittance to the columns of The Citizen—all else sent shall go in hereafter as heretofore.

As regards opinions, however, we hold ourselves responsible for nothing except what appears in editorial articles.

Township Committee.

The Town Committee were somewhat astonished on Monday night by the character of the reply made by the N. Y. & G. L. R. R. Company to the letter sent them several weeks ago to the effect that no action should be taken in constructing a bridge over Belleville avenue without first meeting with the approval and sanction of the committee. They came in the person of Road-master Humphrey with a request that the company be permitted to disturb the roadway of Belleville avenue in order to commence the erection of the bridge. He was given to understand in a most emphatic manner that there was a previous question to be settled, to wit: the approval by the committee of the structure to be built. Mr. Humphrey submitted a drawing of the proposed bridge. It provided for a thirty foot span over the roadway resting on pillars erected on the space allotted for sidewalk after the manner of the Broad street bridge. The erection of the pillars was a feature that met immediate opposition from each member of the committee. Each one declared that the understanding with the company was that the street was to be covered by a single span and kept free of all encumbrances. Chairman Ward called for an individual expression of opinion in the matter. The testimony was unanimous that R. Wayne Parker, counsel for the company, had so given them to understand in his conference with them. Mr. Humphrey pretended to have no knowledge of any such promise. He put forward the company's well-worn plea of poverty. He estimated that a single span bridge such as would meet the views of the committee would cost double the amount of the proposed structure. He called attention to the Broad street bridge and asked if any objection had been made to the pillars there. He was given to understand that the present affair was a different matter. Mr. Parker urged the rejection of the plan. Mr. Cook moved that it be referred to a special meeting and the views of the property owners on Belleville avenue be obtained in the matter. Mr. Seibert opposed any delay of immediate action in the matter as the company had had explicit instructions from the committee and had ignored them. He did not approve of the proposed structure and thought to be compelled to keep their agreement. Mr. Benson said that referring the matter to another meeting was simply a wavering on the part of the committee in their attitude towards the company, which was one of insisting on the rights of the township. He said that the indictments procured against the company were good and by carrying them through the courts they could compel the company to do what the people demanded, which was only what was right.

Mr. Benson expressed himself as opposed to all compromises in this matter, being one of long standing. The township had put up with a great deal from the railroad company and it was only after the procuring of the indictments that the company had shown a disposition to remedy the evils complained of. Mr. Cook's motion was put to a vote, Messrs. Cook and Dodd voting in the affirmative and Messrs. Benson and Seibert in the negative. Chairman Ward after a long study decided in favor of referring to a special meeting. He stated, however, that his opinion of the proposed structure was not in the least affected by his action and in voting on its acceptance or rejection he would vote against it. It was hinted that this method of delaying action would be taken advantage of by the company who would immediately set their agents to work drumming up property owners in favor of the proposed bridge. Mr. Benson endeavored to get Mr. Humphrey to say something about the other bridges in dispute, but that official was non-committal, anything but the Belleville avenue structure.

Permission was given to the N. Y. & G. L. R. Railway Company to close Baldwin street while making repairs to the bridge over the track at that place.

Messrs. H. M. Barrett, Thos. McGowan and Walter Freeman, representing the Bloomfield Republican Club, were given permission to use Phoenix Hose Company's building for the purpose of holding an election on June 18th.

The Water Committee were authorized to contract for the erection of a water hydrant to pave the gutters of the streets crossing Baldwin avenue.

Chairman Ward stated that he had attended a meeting of the Montclair Town Committee by invitation and the subject of electric lights was talked over. He said it was stated at the meeting that considerable dissatisfaction prevailed in Montclair over the services rendered by the Montclair Gas & Water Company. The people were desirous of a change.

Electric Lighting Companies had offered to light the town with incandescent lights at an expense of from \$11 to \$18 per light per annum, the lights to burn all night.

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